

**To:** Way, Steven[way.steven@epa.gov]; Scott Roberts[scott@mountainstudies.org]; Aaron Kimple[akimple@mountainstudies.org]  
**From:** Marcie Demmy Bidwell  
**Sent:** Fri 8/7/2015 10:30:49 PM  
**Subject:** Animas River Sampling  
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Hello Steve,

I wanted to reach out to you and EPA to let you know that Mountain Studies Institute would be interested and available to help with sampling in the Animas River.

First, of course, is to say that we are sorry that you have this reason to come to Durango. We wish it were for other reasons.

Second, is to let you know that we are here if you need extra hands during this time of discovery and recovery. We have several people that are trained in water collection, and Scott Roberts is now working for us as an aquatic ecologist, hopefully doing the BMI work for the ARSG going forward.

You can reach me at 970-426-8863, Scott at [Personal Phone/Ex. 6] and Aaron Kimple at [Personal Phone/Ex. 6]. Please feel free to pass this along to the rest of the EPA response team. I met with Hays and gave him my contact at that time as well.

Third, I wanted to pass along that (instinctively) started gathering data on water quality as the sediment plume arrived in Durango at Rotary Park at approximately 10:30 PM on Thursday, August 6.

#### DATA:

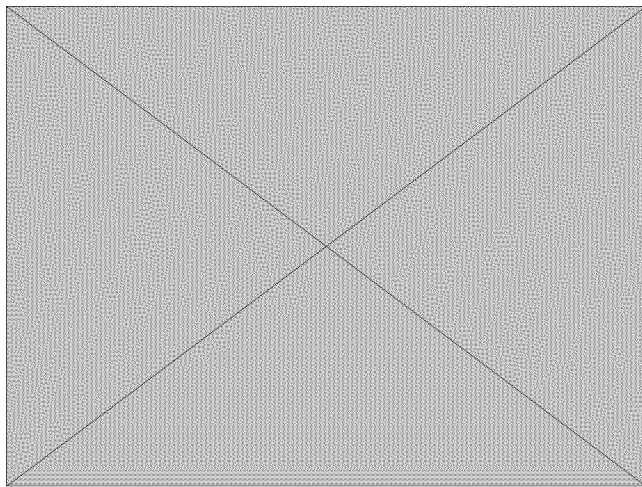
On August 6, we collected river water samples at 8 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 10:30 PM, 11 PM, 11:30 PM, 12:00 AM, and 12:30 AM.

We collected macroinvertebrate drift sampling at 9 PM, 10:30 PM and 11:30 PM to capture macroinvertebrates that would be drifting downstream in the water column to escape the sediment plume.

We collected quantitative benthic macroinvertebrate samples from Rotary Park and 32nd Street prior to the arrival of the sediment plume. We will re-sample these two sites in the coming days to document any changes to benthic macroinvertebrate community composition that may occur as a result of the event.

Regarding the water quality samples, we were planning to have the full suite of metals analyzed. We are seeking funding to support the analysis, but in the meantime we are pulling samples. The bottles below show the sample at 10 PM and 12:30 PM as the plume is arriving in downtown Durango.

As I said, let us know what we can do if you can use some extra help. As we have worked together in other situations, you know we do good work.



**Mountain Studies Institute**

Executive Director

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